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Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 61/124 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* A/62/50.

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I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954, Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard, but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme is included in the thirty-third edition of the handbook entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions,[1] the Secretary-General submits to the Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[2] The present report, which covers the period from 24 March 2006 to 28 March 2007, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 61/124 of 14 December 2006.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 59 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the aforementioned resolutions:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State has also offered scholarships:

Holy See

[1] The most recent resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on this question are resolutions 57/134, 58/105, 59/130, 60/113 and 61/124.

[2] For the most recent reports, see A/56/88, A/57/90 and Add.1, A/58/71, A/59/74, A/60/67 and A/61/66.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Algeria

7. In a note verbale dated 21 February 2007, the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations informed the United Nations Secretariat that, for the year 2006-2007, the Government of Algeria offered students from Western Sahara 264 scholarships, as follows: 149 higher education scholarships, 104 vocational training scholarships, 7 judicial education scholarships and 4 religious education scholarships.

Argentina

8. In a note verbale dated 12 February 2007, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following views of the Government of Argentina:

> The United Kingdom illegally occupied the Malvinas Islands in 1833. The Argentine Republic immediately protested, and has never consented to that act of force. The United Kingdom established a colonial regime in the Islands, and registered this part of the Argentine territory as a Non-Self-Governing Territory in 1946.
>
> The United Nations, by General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX) and subsequent resolutions, as well as resolutions of the Special Committee on Decolonization, recognized the existence of a dispute between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, and invited both Governments to proceed without delay with the negotiations recommended by the Special Committee on Decolonization, bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the interests of the population of the Malvinas Islands.
>
> Without prejudice to this and since the islands form part of the national Argentine territory, its inhabitants enjoy — just like the rest of the Argentine population — access to the educational system comprising free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels and the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

9. In a note verbale dated 17 February 2007, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland informed the Secretary-General that the number of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories who were given Chevening scholarships from 2006-2007 are as follows: Anguilla (1) and Montserrat (2).

United States of America

10. In a letter dated 15 February 2007, the Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations advised the Secretariat that: (a) the United States Government does not directly provide scholarships to students residing in the three United States-administered Non-Self-Governing Territories; (b) each of the United States-administered Non-Self-Governing Territories — American Samoa, Guam and United States Virgin Islands — possesses post-secondary educational and training facilities, including American Samoa Community College (www.ascc.as), Guam Community College (www.guam.net), and University of the Virgin Islands (www.uvi.edu). Each school affords enrolled students multiple scholarship and financial aid opportunities; (c) students residing in the three United States-administered Non-Self-Governing Territories may submit applications for financial aid and scholarships — academic, athletic, ethnic affiliation, etc. — to any United States institution of higher learning of their choice; (d) no statistical information is available on the numbers of scholarships granted to students residing in American Samoa, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

11. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

12. From 24 March 2006 to 28 March 2007, the Secretariat received no requests from students for information on the availability of scholarships.

IV. Conclusion

13. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.